UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/AC.237/30
18 March 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE
FOR A FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE
CHANGE
Seventh session
New York, 15-20 March 1993
Agenda item 5

FUTURE SESSIONS OF THE COMMITTEE: CALENDAR AND PRIORITIES

Letter dated 18 March 1993 from the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change to the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

I thank you for your letter of 1 March 1993, inviting comments, which could be transmitted to the IPCC by the end of May this year for inclusion in the work programme of IPCC, to be finalized at its session in June.

Having consulted some of my colleagues on the Committee I can confirm INC's keen interest in and requirement for the preliminary assessment of significant changes in the state of knowledge about the science of climate change, including an assessment of the relative forcing of different greenhouse gases. I note that IPCC will prepare this special report for the first session of the Conference of the Parties and that it should be ready in the latter part of 1994. Likewise, the development of comparable methodologies for inventories of greenhouse gases and, particularly, sinks is of key interest to INC, in the context of articles 4 and 12 of the Convention.

Another area in which INC would appreciate the views of IPCC will be in assessing significant changes in the state of knowledge of the impacts of climate change, including, for example, ecosystem sensitivity and relevant technical, social and economic information.

Also, an evaluation of current scenarios of greenhouse gas emissions and removals by sinks will be necessary. Further, in accordance with article 4.2 (b) of the Convention, INC will develop, for use by the Conference of the Parties, criteria for the review of information submitted by developed countries. These will include methodologies for assessing the global results of measures. The technical inputs of IPCC on these matters would be appreciated.

With the above types of information, INC will be in a position to prepare for the necessary action by the Conference of the Parties at its first session, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention. These matters will be discussed by the INC Working Group I during its session in August 1993. I should be grateful, therefore, if you could keep INC informed of progress in the work of IPCC.

(Signed) Raul ESTRADA-OYUELA
Chairman, INC